



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

Karl Vernon Lee Barnett  
11 Ascension Drive  
Apt. K  
Asheville, NC 28806

**COPY MAILED**

JUL 11 2005

In re Patent of  
Barnett  
Patent No. 6,170,281  
Issue Date: January 9, 2001  
Application No. 09/261,310  
Filing Date: March 2, 1999

Letter

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS****Request for Information**

This letter is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(b) filed on March 6, 2005, requesting the acceptance of the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

Prior to rendering a decision on the petition, the Office wishes to ensure it is able to fully consider the facts and circumstances surrounding the expiration of the patent. Petitioner fails to discuss:

- (1) Would the 3.5 year fee have been timely paid if a reissue application had not been filed?
- (2) Would the 3.5 year fee have been timely paid if the original patent had not been "surrendered"?

Petitioner should fully address the questions listed above.


Petitioner should submit the requested information within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this letter. Extensions of time may not be obtained. No additional fee is due for a response to the instant request for information. The response to this Requirement for Information should include a cover letter entitled "Response to Request for Information." The failure to file a reply to the instant Request for Information will be interpreted as a desire to no longer pursue reinstatement of the patent and the Office will give no further consideration to the matter.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300  
Attn: Office of Petitions

Telephone inquiries may be directed to Petitions Attorney Steven Brantley at (571) 272-3203.

  
Charles Steven Brantley  
Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions